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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.** [NL/NL];
Groenewoudseweg 1, NL-5621 BA Eindhoven (NL).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **HENDRIKS, Bernardus, H., W.** [NL/NL]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). **LIEDENBAUM, Coen**,

T., H., F. [NL/NL]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). **STALLINGA, Sjoerd** [NL/NL]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL). **KUIPER, Stein** [NL/NL]; c/o Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

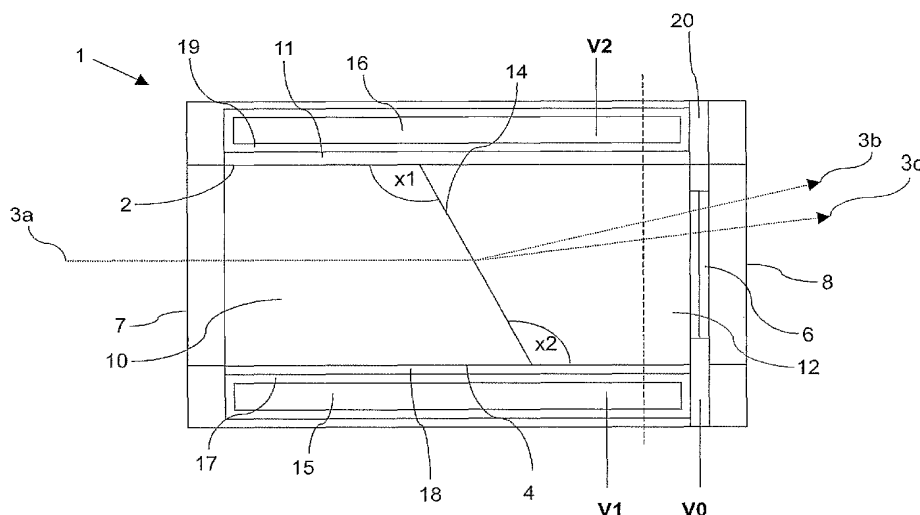
(74) Agents: **UITTENBOGAARD, Frank** et al.; Prof. Holstlaan 6, NL-5656 AA Eindhoven (NL).

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(54) Title: BIREFRINGENT OPTICAL SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to an optical system comprising a fluid chamber I and a birefringent part. The fluid chamber comprises first and second fluids 10, 12 having different indices of refraction, the interface between the fluids forming a meniscus 14. The birefringent part is capable of varying characteristics of a first radiation beam 3b and a second radiation beam 3c, the first and second radiation beams having different polarisations. Variation in the configuration of the meniscus causes variation in the characteristics of the first radiation beam and the second radiation beam. Variation in the configuration of the meniscus may be controlled by electrowetting.

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